

THE THIRD EDITION OF THADDEUS WILLIAM HARRIS'S "TREATISE ON SOME OF THE INSECTS INJURIOUS TO VEGETATION.", 1862.¹

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ABSTRACT: No date of publication for the new names in Harris's "Treatise", third edition, 1862, has been acknowledged except the mandatory 31 December 1862 of the Code. It is demonstrated here that the proper date is 31 January 1862. It is also noted that at least six different "Third Edition" were published during 1862 using a variety of publishers and printers.

During the winter of 1973-1974 I was looking into the name *Lycaena americana* Harris, 1862. I soon discovered that the situation was complicated. Harris had died in 1856 and the volume was published posthumously*. [*For those interested, a bibliography of biographies of Harris will be found in Carpenter, 1945, p. 43.] Posthumous publication always brings up the problem of authorship. In this case there is more involved.

The editor's preface to the 1862 edition opens "By a resolve of the Legislature of Massachusetts, 1859, chap. 93, I was directed to issue a new edition of Dr. Harris's admirable Treatise on Insects Injurious to Vegetation, with suitable additions and illustrations." (The italics are mine.) This was to be enlarged and updated revision of the 1852 edition. The "I" of the statement of authority was Charles L. Flint, Secretary of the State [Massachusetts] Board of Agriculture. Not only is there a problem of authorship brought on by posthumous publication but also the real problem of what Harris wrote and what Flint added.

The latter problem is resolved further on in the Introduction. There Flint stated "It has been thought best to insert the additions contemplated in the resolve, in the form of footnotes. No alterations have been made in the author's language, and the additional notes are enclosed in brackets to distinguish them from those in the former editions. Large additions to the text, however, have been made from the author's own manuscripts. These will be found exclusively in the chapter upon the butterflies." This explains the wholly different texts of Chapter V when the Second (1852) and Third (1862) editions are compared.

Centering on chapter five and the Editor's Preface, it is evident that Dr. John G. Morris of Baltimore acted as editor for the new work. Just how much of the interweaving of the scant treatment of butterflies in the second edition and Harris's new material is Flint's invention we will never know. That the

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selecting and blending was done by Flint is obvious from Morris's additions. There are 26 bracketed statements as footnotes added by Morris. Read carefully these are strong evidence that Morris did not alter any of the manuscript he received. All that he did was point out places where he thought Harris (or Flint) in error. Thus the authorship problem involves only Harris and Flint.

Here is the problem: In a posthumous work are the new zoological names introduced to be credited to the deceased author or to the gentleman responsible for publishing the names? Numerous articles and recommendations in the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature (1973 edition) refer to publication. None of these mentions posthumous publication. Authorship is covered in Section XI. Although nothing is specifically said about posthumous publication, it clearly is the philosophy of the Code to award authorship where it is due. There are no arbitrary rules. Article 50 reads as follows: "The author (authors) of a scientific name is (are) the person (persons) who first publish(es) it [III] in a way that satisfies the criteria of availability [IV], unless it is clear from the contents of the publication that only one (or some) of the joint authors, or some other person (persons), is alone responsible both for the name and the conditions that make it available."

It is clear from the Editor's Preface that he (the editor) considered the names the creation of Harris and it is implied that the text devoted to new names was written by Harris. Therefore Harris is alone responsible for the names. But, what about the second requirement, availability? This is treated of in Article 11. To become available a name must comply with seven criteria. The names in the Flint edition of Harris comply with all that are applicable to species-group names. There is nothing in this section that states that an author must publish the name, only that the name must have been published. Thus there is nothing in the Code that prevents assignment of the names to Harris, or to Harris in Flint.

There is a third aspect to be considered. In 1862 Morris published descriptions of the butterflies that Harris first named in the Third Edition. These were published by Morris in his "Synopsis". Now the problem is which of the two volumes was published first? Morris's "Synopsis" was published in February, 1862, by the Smithsonian Institution. Internal evidence for the Third Edition is no more than that it was published in 1862. According to the Code, Article 21, (b) (i) the assumed date for the publication of Morris is 28 February 1862; and in Article 21 (b) (ii) for Harris in Flint is 31 December 1862. Thus on the basis of internal evidence it appears that Morris's publication antedates Harris in Flint and the names of the butterflies must be credited to Morris (nominally before 28 February 1862.) If it can be proven that the Third Edition was published before 28 February 1862, then the author is Harris.

I started a search of library accession books to discover when in 1862 copies of the Third Edition of Harris had been received. It was discouraging work. Either there was no way to establish the date of receipt or the volume was a gift long after 1862. An unexpected surprise developed during this work. There are a variety of 1862 editions of the Third Edition. The first inkling of this came to me in a letter from Mr. William Matheson of the Rare Book Division of the Library of Congress. He sent me a photo copy of the frontispiece of their copy of the book with a title page differing in publisher from my copy. To make a long search short, I have found six different 1862 printings of the Third Edition. These I list at the end of this paper. There are others extending into the 1880's.

The first concrete evidence for a date of publication came from Mrs. Hugh M. Hill, Librarian at the Museum of Comparative Zoology at Harvard University. They have four different 1862 editions in that library, the largest number in a single library. The earliest receipt of one of these was between 24 October and 31 December, 1862. Later, at the Academy of Natural Sciences library in Philadelphia I found that their earliest copy was received as a gift from Dr. Samuel Lewis between 10 March and 14 April, 1862. It began to look as though Harris's Third Edition might have appeared in February, 1862, the same month as Morris's "Synopsis".

At this time I wrote to three friends with bibliophilic leanings: Dr. Cyril F. dosPassos, Mr. Norman D. Riley and Mr. Patrick B. McHenry. Dr. dosPassos could not help me with anything but encouragement to keep digging into the problem. Mr. McHenry advised me of a copy that he had purchased some years ago from Eric Lundberg, Ashton, Maryland. This is a presentation copy inscribed "Hon. E.W. Bull, With the Cordial Regards of the Editor, Boston, Jan. 1862." This copy carries an "Editor's Preface" dated "Boston, January, 1862". Thus it appears that the Third edition was published before 31 January, 1862.

Mr. Riley brought to light an even earlier edition! The copy in the British Museum (N.H.) library has the "Editor's Preface" dated "Boston, December, 1861". The publication date for this printing is "1862". Thus it is apparent that the Flint Edition of T.W. Harris's "Treatise" antedated by about a month Morris's "Synopsis" and that names are to be credited to Harris, or Harris in Flint if you wish to be precise.

The Editor's Preface in the earliest volume differs from that in those dated "January 1862." In the preface dated "January 1862" the second paragraph is a new one. It reads: "By resolve of the Legislature of 1861, chap. 80, I was authorized to use the plates prepared for the illustration of the edition for the Commonwealth, in the publication of one or more editions designed for a wider circulation than that for the State could be expected to have." This is the reason for the variety of printings. Over I list the 1862 printings known to me.

- A. **State printings:** These have an abbreviated title page when compared with the others. It simply states: "A / Treatise / on some of the / Insects Injurious to Vegetation / by Thaddeus William Harris, M.D. / Third Edition."
- I. Editor's Preface dated December, 1861.
 Publisher: "Boston: / William White, Printer to the State. / 1862."
 Printer: "Cambridge: / Welch, Bigelow, and Company, / Printers to the University."
 Held by British Museum (N.H.)
 - II. Editor's Preface dated January, 1862.
 Publisher: the same as for I.
 Printer: the same as for I.
 Held by numerous libraries, institutional and private.
- B. **Published under Chapter 80, Legislature of 1861:** The title page is the same as for the State editions with this added in place of "Third Edition": A new Edition / enlarged and improved, with additions from the author's manuscripts / and original notes. / Illustrated by engravings drawn from nature under the supervision of / Professor Agassiz. / Edited by / Charles L. Flint, / secretary of the Massachusetts State Board of / Agriculture." In all of these the Editor's Preface is dated January, 1862.
- III. Publisher: "Boston: / Crosby and Nichols / 117 Washington Street"
 Printer: "Cambridge: Welch, Bigelow and Company, / Printers to the University."
 Held by Carnegie Museum Library.
 - IV. Publisher: "Boston: / Crosby and Nichols, / New York: Oliver S. Felt. / 1862."
 Printer: the same as for I, II, III.
 Held by numerous institutional and private libraries.
 - V. Publisher: "New York / Orange Judd and Company, / 245 Broadway / 1862."
 Printer: "Cambridge: Printed by H.O. Houghton and Company."
 Held by Museum of Comparative Zoology and Field Museum of Natural History.
 - VI. Publisher: "Boston: / Printed for private circulation / 1862."
 Printer: the same as for I, II, III, IV.
 Held by Museum of Comparative Zoology.
- I wish here to express my grateful thanks to the many librarians who helped me in this search.

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